

Advancing Practice Transformation in Ambulatory Practices

Care Transformation Organization Grant Announcement Q&A

On May 3rd, 2021, the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) released an announcement for grant applications (Grant ID MHCC 21-014), *Advancing Practice Transformation in Ambulatory Practices*.¹ The MHCC is making available some common questions and answers that pertain to this announcement. This document will be updated as we receive additional questions from potential applicants.

1. *What are Care Transformation Organizations (CTOs)?*

CTOs are entities approved by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) under the Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP) to provide advanced care delivery support services to practices. More information is available here: health.maryland.gov/mdpcp/Pages/care-transformation-organizations.aspx

2. *Can other organizations apply who are not CTOs and are recognized by MHCC or CMS to provide practices with technical assistance and care delivery support services?*

Applicants for this grant announcement should include only CTOs. A list of eligible CTOs is available here: health.maryland.gov/mdpcp/Documents/MDPCP%20CTO%20List%202021.pdf.

3. *What practices are eligible to be recruited into the program?*

Specialty and primary care practices not currently participating in an alternative care delivery model like the MDPCP and interested in building the skill set and processes to be successful in advanced care delivery are eligible for the program. Federally qualified health centers and practices currently enrolled in an advanced alternative payment model or other practice transformation initiative are not eligible.

¹ The announcement can be found here: mhcc.maryland.gov/mhcc/pages/home/procurement/procurement.aspx.

4. *Are practices recruited by CTOs to participate in the program required to complete all program milestones?*

While MHCC expects participating practices to complete all program milestones, the program is voluntary. Practices may discontinue participation without penalty. CTOs will be required to notify MHCC of practices' withdrawal dates.

5. *Are practices outside of Maryland eligible to participate in the program?*

Practices are only eligible to participate if their practice site address is in the State of Maryland.

6. *Is the program practice application available?*

The practice application is not available at this time.

7. *What is the duration of the grant?*

The grant period is up to 24 months. The MHCC may authorize a no-cost extension of the grant period if more time is needed to complete milestones or terminate the grant early at its discretion.

8. *What is the total funding amount for this grant?*

Please review the Advancing Practice Transformation in Ambulatory Practices grant announcement for more details on funding for this grant.

9. *Are submitted non-binding letters of intent (LOIs) considered confidential or public documents?*

All information submitted as part of this grant application is subject to the Maryland Public Information Act, General Provisions Article ("Gen. Prov.") §§ 4-101 to 4-601 (2014).² The Maryland Public Information Act requires that MHCC deny a request for disclosure of any record that contains confidential commercial or financial information or trade secrets. See Gen. Prov. § 4-335. Therefore, it is important that an applicant clearly identify any information provided that the applicant believes falls within the meaning of Gen. Prov. § 4-335 and should be

² The full text of the Maryland Public Information Act, Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 to 4-601, can be accessed on-line at advance.lexis.com/ or at the website of the General Assembly of Maryland, www.mlis.state.md.us, under the "Statutes" tab on the home page.

withheld by MHCC in response to any Public Information Act request. Please review the Maryland Public Information Act:

www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/OpenGov%20Documents/Chapter3.pdf on pages 3-19 for more information.

10. *Does MHCC require a list of potential practice recruits to be included in submitted LOIs?*

The MHCC's preference is that a list of potential practice recruits be included in submitted LOIs. However, applicants are not required to provide a practice list in the LOI.

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